PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE U

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Hiroto HORIKAWA

Group Art Unit: 2851

Application No.: 09/327,621-

Examiner:

P. Kim

Filed: June 8, 1999

Docket No.:

101809.03

For:

STAGE UNIT, DRIVE TABLE, AND SCANNING EXPOSURE APPARATUS USING

THE SAME

AMENDMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated August 9, 2001, the shortened statutory period for reply being extended by the attached Petition for Extension of Time, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claims 26 and 38-45 as follows:

26. (Twice Amended) A stage apparatus for scanning an object that includes at least one of a mask and a photosensitive substrate, said stage apparatus being provided to a scanning exposure apparatus that illuminates said mask on which a transfer pattern is formed and scans said mask in a predetermined scanning direction and synchronously scans said substrate in a direction corresponding to said scanning direction, thereby exposing said pattern on said mask onto said substrate, comprising:

a base;

a scanning stage that is movable in said scanning direction on said base;

